

Response from Brandon Judd:

"With complete confidence, I can say that I never asked *then* President-elect Trump to fire Chief Morgan. From the day he was elected to the day he took office, I met with President-elect Trump with several other individuals on two occasions. We do not remember ever discussing Mr. Morgan with the President.

I also did not meet with the President after his inauguration prior to learning of Chief Morgan's resignation. I highly recommend that you ask your source if he/she was present during either of the meetings. I also recommend you ask where the meetings were held. If your source says he/she was present, that person would know the dates, locations, and times of the meetings.

I will gladly confirm or refute the information provided. Also, on January 25, 2017, at approximately 7:30 a.m., *then* Acting Commissioner McAleenan called me and informed me that he was asking Mr. Morgan to step down. He informed me that the decision was his and his alone and he asked that the NBPC "does not dance on his grave." Paul Perez, Albert Trevino, and Art Del Cueto were present with me during the conversation and they can attest to what was said.

We were in the lobby of the JW Marriott in Washington, D.C., preparing for meetings. Acting Commissioner McAleenan was informed of the presence of the above-named persons and he agreed to converse because all persons were and are NBPC Officers, one of whom handles media. My cell phone records and contemporaneous notes at home will also prove this call took place.

I find the following quote laughable. "The amount of influence this guy [Judd] has relative to the reality of the size of his union [the NBPC represents 16,500 border patrol agents] is insane."

Based upon this quote, your source obviously puts stock solely in the size of an organization rather than experience or expertise in a particular matter. If I were to subscribe to this person's way of thinking, then I would have to consider AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka and AFGE President J. David Cox, neither of whom have any border security experience, experts.

I would also have to consider Chief Carla Provost less than an expert. Does your source know that I have testified before Congress on 18 separate occasions regarding border security issues and that I have been asked to testify but was unable due to scheduling conflicts on several other occasions? Does your source know that I am consulted on border security issues by a great many persons elected to US Congress on both sides of the political aisle on a regular basis?

It appears your source has an axe to grind and nothing more. Also, please ask your source what he/she considers a regular presence at the WH. Regular is relative and without knowing what that person considers regular, I would not be able to comment. If your source provides an approximate number of times I've been to the WH with coinciding dates, I will be happy to comment. I wouldn't think this is a very hard ask for a source that appears to have sold him/herself as a very knowledgeable person on my activities. Unnamed sources are not that impressive especially on this topic. My activities are not secret, and I don't think the information the person shared with you would cause the WH to bat an eye, so why does the person remain anonymous?

Furthermore, when neither Mark Morgan or I had anything to gain, we reconciled our differences and talked through the issues that we identified as being the catalyst to our disagreements. We did what the American public would like to see Congress do. We met, discussed, and reconciled our differences - in short, we acted like adults. That fact, as well as the recognition of his leadership experience in an investigative agency (FBI), which the Border Patrol is not, is the reason we know that he will be a great fit for ICE."